

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3377

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, ML (DEMBELE, MAKAN)

SUBJ: FY-76 IV NOMINATION

REF: BERG/GOMEZ CONVERSATIONS, ACCRA PAO CONFERENCE

EMBASSY REQUESTS SPECIAL CU CONSIDERATION FOR THE NOMINATION OF MR. MAKAN DEMEBELE, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR U.S. AFFAIRS, FOR A 30-DAY IV GRANT. BIO-DATA, JUSTIFICATION AND PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW:

1. NAME: MAKAN DEMBELE
 2. PRESENT POSITION: ADVISOR, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (RESPONSIBLE FOR U.S., CANADIAN AND WEST EUROPEAN AFFAIRS) SINCE 1974. FORMER POSITIONS: INSTRUCTOR AT THE LYCEE D'ETAT DE TROYES, FRANCE; INSTRUCTOR AT THE C.E.T. DE CHAUMONT ET DE LANGRES, FRANCES; PROFESSOR OF THEORY OF LAW; FACULTE DE DROIT ET DE SCIENCES ECONOMIQUES DE REIMS, FRANCE.
 3. PERSONAL DATA: BORN IN 1940 IN KENIEBA, MALI; MARRIED, TWO CHILDREN; ADDRESS: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BAMAKO; EMERGENCY ADDRESS: C/O LT. COL. FILIFING SISSOKO, MILITARY COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION, BAMAKO. EDUCATION: LYCEE TERRASSON, BAMAKO, ABOUT 1957; FACULTE DE DROIT ET DES SCIENCES ECONOMIQUES DE DIJON, PARIS; DIPLOMES: LICENCE EN DROIT (PUBLIC); DIPLOME D'ETUDES SUPERIEURES DE DROIT PUBLIC (DROIT INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC, 1973). HOBBIES/INTERESTS: READING, WALKING, CINEMA, THEATER TRAVEL: FRANCE, 1975; SWITZERLAND, 1970.
 4. KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH: REPORTED TO READ AND UNDERSTAND BUT
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NOT SPEAK.

5. KNOWLEDGE OF OTHER LANGUAGES: REPORTED TO SPEAK SPANISH

6. JUSTIFICATION: AS THE SENIOR MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH U.S. AFFAIRS, MR. DEMBELE OCCUPIES A POSITION OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE CONDUCT OF U.S.-MALIAN RELATIONS. YET, HE HAS NEVER VISITED AMERICA AND FRANKLY ADMITS TO HIS LACK OF FAMILIARTITY WITH OUR HISTORY, CULTURE, VALUES AND POLITICAL PROCESSES. DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS A NUMBER OF BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES (PUERTO RICO, KOREA, ZIONISM, ANGOLA) HAVE ARISEN WHICH HAVE COOLED THE UNTIL RECENTLY FREINDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. OF THESE PUERTO RICO IS THAT WHICH MOST THREATENS BILATERAL TIES, AS MALI IS A MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT U.N. COMMITTEE ON DE-COLONIZATION AND CO-SPONSORED A HOSTILE RESOLUTION ON THIS ISSUE LAST AUGUST. ALTHOUGH POSTPONED, VOTING ON THIS QUESTION WILL TAKE PLACE SOON.

MR. DEMBELE ENJOYS THE CONFIDENCE OF KEY MEMBERS OF THE RULING MILITARY COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION. YOUNG, ARTICULATE, AND WELL EDUCATED, HE SHOWS PROMSIE, BOTH THROUGH HIS OWN MERITS AND POLITICAL CONNECTIONS, OF RISING TO POSITIONS OF GREATER INFLUENCE WITHIN THE GOM. HE IS ONE OF A VERY FEW WESTERN TRAINED AND WESTERN ORIENTED SENIOR OFFICIALS IN A MINISTRY DOMINATED BY PERSONS OF OTHER PERSUASIONS. HE IS AT PRESENT AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT IN U.S.-MALIAN RELATIONS.

7. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: THE NOMINEES VISIT SHOULD NECESSARILY EMPHASIZE POSLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES, BUT NOT TO THE EXCLUSION OF OTHER MANIFESTATIONS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. IN WASHINGTON HE SHOULD MEET WITH HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE, TREASURY, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, AID, IMF, WORLD BANK AND LIKE INSTITUTIONS, WHILE IN NEW YORK THE U.N. AND WORLD TRADE CENTER AND AFRICA-ORIENTED INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE INCLUDED. HIS KNOWLEDGE OF SPANISH (NOT PERSONALLY EVALUATED) STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT A VISIT TO PUERTO RICO AND CALLS ON OFFICIALS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL THERE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. THE ELECTIONS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY INTEREST HIM, AS WILL CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES, STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE JUDICIARY, ETC. MR. DEMBELE APPEARS TO HAVE NO DIETARY RESTRICTIONS. HE WILL REQUIRE AN ESCORT/INTERPRETER.

8. ALTERNATE: MR. ASSANE GUINDO, COUNSELOR FOR INFORMATION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS; FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE PRC, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORMER DIRECTOR OF AIR MALI.

9. THIS NOMINATION IS OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR THIS MISSION'S PRESENT OBJECTIVES. IT IS CLEARLY POLITICALLY MOTIVATED. BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THIS PROPOSAL, MORE PRECISE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AND INDICATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS ARE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. UPON RECEIPT OF APPROVAL OF THE NOMINATION BY CU, A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TRANSMITTING THE INVITATION WILL BE SENT, AFTER WHICH COMPLETE

INFORMATION WILL BE REQUESTED. A PROMPT RESPONSE IS REQUESTED.

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